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event the elected claims of Species II are not ultimately allowed as being generic claims to Species I.

Applicant respectfully request early and favorable action by the Examiner. If the Examiner believes that any issues may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned agent.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin A. Russo Reg. No. 32,937 Agent of Record

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

> Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On February 6, 2004

Date of Deposit

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